

any debt, either to the printers, book-binders or any one else, after that date. The object of this resolution, and its legal effect, was to give power to the committee after the first of June, to certify to the President the correctness of the accounts.

Mr. THOMAS said, that even those who voted against the contract could not vote against this proposition. The reporter was paid according to the amount of his work when printed. Twenty per cent of that was retained. It would be impossible, before the printing was concluded, to ascertain what was due to him. It was admitted by all that the printing could not be finished by the first of June. The question then was, whether there should be any power to pay him his compensation when it became due by the completion of the printing; or whether the reporter should be deprived of \$1200 fairly earned under his contract. He had not participated in the debates upon the contract. He had not been cognisant of its progress. This was a different question. As to the expense of the committee, he should not think the people of Maryland would refuse to pay the miserable pittance of \$4 per day for a few days in the fulfilment of their contract with a faithful public servant.

The order was then twice read and adopted.

Mr. RANDALL from the Committee on Revision reported to the Convention certain amendments to the report of the Legislative Committee,

Which were read and disposed of.

Mr. SPENCER submitted the following order:

*Ordered*, That one hundred copies of the engrossed copy of this Constitution be printed and bound, under the direction and supervision of the Committee on Printing, and that the said engrossed copy and one copy of the said bound and printed copy, be deposited among the records of the Clerk of the Court of Appeals, and that the residue of the said bound and printed copies be deposited in the library, to be disposed of by the Legislature.

The order was twice read and adopted.

Mr. RIDGELY submitted the following order:

*Ordered*, That the Treasurer pay, upon the warrant of the President of the Convention, such sum of money as the Committee on Printing may contract to pay for printing the new Constitution, payable upon the performance of the work.

The order was twice read and adopted.

Mr. TUCK from the Committee on Revision, made a report on sundry independent articles proposed,

Which was read and adopted.

On motion of Mr. STEWART, of Baltimore city,

The Convention took a recess until nine o'clock, p. m.

## EVENING SESSION.

TUESDAY, May 13,—9 o'clock, p. m.

The Convention met and

The roll was called.

Mr. RIDGELY said, that he understood there was some doubt entertained by the President as

to his power of signing warrants to allow per diem to members of the Convention since yesterday. To remove all doubt, he would move that the President be authorised to sign warrants for members of this Convention up to to-morrow inclusive.

Mr. JENIFER understood that this question was disposed of yesterday. It was expressly understood that they should adjourn, and that the accounts should be paid up until yesterday. He thought they should do some little good for the public; and if they delayed until tomorrow to perfect the work they had done, they should not charge one cent. If they were compelled to remain here, the officers of the House should be entitled to pay, but they had no right to open the accounts for themselves.

Mr. SPENCER saw no reason why they should not have their per diem for to-day and to-morrow. He was as willing as any person to yield his per diem, but he thought that the members had a right to receive it. He suggested to the gentleman from Baltimore county to accept, in lieu of his motion, the following:

*Resolved*, That the journal of accounts having been closed, the President of this Convention draw upon the Treasury for two days per diem in favor of each attending member of this Convention, and each of the attending officers.

Mr. RIDGELY accepted the resolution in lieu of his motion.

Mr. JENIFER said, that if they should receive their per diem for to-day and to-morrow, it would take away from them the credit which they really thought they were entitled to. He certainly believed no member remained here under the idea of receiving his per diem. He was not making a speech for Buncombe, but inasmuch as they had been charged by the public of being here six months for their per diem, they should show the public that they could stay here without their per diem.

The question was then taken on agreeing to the resolution, and it was decided in the affirmative.

So the resolution was adopted.

Mr. SPENCER moved to suspend the rule so as to enable him to move an amendment changing the phraseology of the second section of the bill on the Elective Franchise; which motion was not agreed to.

Mr. TUCK said that he was directed by the committee on Revision to make a report on the Bill of Rights. The report was in reference to the thirty-sixth article, prescribing the manner of administering an oath. When the question was under consideration, the Convention struck out all after the word "Divine Being," and it was left in that condition. He had been informed that some members of the Convention did not so understand it, and that they supposed there would be something inserted that would protect all those who were conscientiously scrupulous about taking an oath, which it would not do if it was left to stand as it now was. Under it no person would be allowed to affirm unless he